



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
701 S. COURTHOUSE RD
ARLINGTON, VA 22204

██████████
Docket No. 6924-25
Ref: Signature Date

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Dear Petitioner:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your father's naval record pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552. After careful and conscientious consideration of relevant portions of your father's naval record and your application, the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board) found the evidence submitted insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice. Consequently, your application has been denied.

Although you did not file your application in a timely manner, the Board waived the statute of limitation in the interest of justice. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 9 January 2026. The names and votes of the panel members will be furnished upon request. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of the Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of your father's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.

The following is the relevant factual background of your case based upon review of your father's naval record and/or the matters provided with your application:

Your father enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve and began a period of active duty on 6 July 1953. After completing the officer candidate course, he was honorably discharged to accept a permanent appointment as a commissioned officer; which he accepted on 19 September 1953 and continued on active duty.

He attended The Basic School, located at Marine Corps Base, ██████████, from 12 October 1953 through 13 March 1954. Subsequently, he was stationed at Marine Corps Base ██████████, from 18 March 1954 until 29 July 1954, until he transferred to ██████████ where he was assigned to ██████████, ██████████, as a Rifle Platoon Commander.

He attended ██████████ at ██████████, ██████████ beginning 6 September 1954 until 23 October 1954, when he incurred an internal derangement of his right knee, secondary to trauma, during training. He returned to his battalion in ██████████ and remained there until June of 1955, when he was evacuated for medical treatment for his injury.

He was hospitalized at ██████████ in ██████████, ██████████, from June of 1955 through August of 1955, while he awaited the results of the Physical Evaluation Board (PEB). The results of the PEB determined that his knee injury warranted a disability discharge, which was approved by the Secretary of the Navy on 22 August 1955.

As a result, your father was honorably discharged by reason of physical disability on 15 September 1955. His service records document receipt of the National Defense Medal (NDSM), which was authorized for any honorable active service during the period from 27 June 1950 until 27 July 1954.

The Board carefully considered all relevant and available information with respect to your father's periods of inactive and active-duty service in the Marine Corps, to include your desire to correct his service record to reflect his receipt of the Bronze Star medal and your contention that you believe he received such award. You provided a uniform photograph which displayed, in addition to the Bronze Star medal, the Purple Heart medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Korean Service Medal, the UN Service Medal for Korea, the NDSM, a Parachutist Insignia, and an unidentifiable badge.

Unfortunately, the Board was unable to locate information in your father's service record to verify his entitlement to any awards other than the NDSM. The Board noted that the Korean War armistice was signed on 27 July 1953, which resulted in a ceasefire. With the timing of your father's active duty service beginning in July 1953, followed by his appointment as a commissioned officer and training at The Basic School from October 1953 until March 1954, the Board found it improbable that he would have served in the ██████████ theater prior to the cessation of active enemy engagement incident to the armistice. Although the end date for issuance of the Korean Service Medal for service in the ██████████ theater extended until 27 July 1954, his service records do not reflect that he served in an overseas location, other than ██████████, or that he participated in combat or contingency operations which might have afforded the opportunity to qualify for combat-related awards other than the NDSM.

After thorough review, the Board concluded that the evidence of record does not support your father's entitlement to the award of the Bronze Star. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined your request does not merit relief.

The Board emphasizes that its decision does not in any way lessen the quality of service or the sacrifices your father made in volunteering to serve during a time of war. Additionally, the Board wanted to express their deepest sympathy for your loss.

You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon the submission of new matters, which will require you to complete and submit a new DD Form 149. New matters are those not previously presented to or considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in

mind that a presumption of regularity is attached to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

1/28/2026

